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URBAN DISTRICT
OF
FEATHERSTONE



ANNUAL REPORT
of the
Medical Officer of Health
and the
Chief Public Health Inspector

FOR THE YEAR

1956

F E A T H E R S T O N E
U R B A N D I S T R I C T C O U N C I L .

A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
M E D I C A L
O F F I C E R O F H E A L T H
1 9 5 6

B Y
J . F . F R A S E R .

M . B . , B . S . , D . P . H . , D . O b s t . , R . C . O . G .

Medical Officer's Section,
Health Department,
Baghill House,
Walkergate,
Pontefract.

To The Chairman and Members of the Council.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

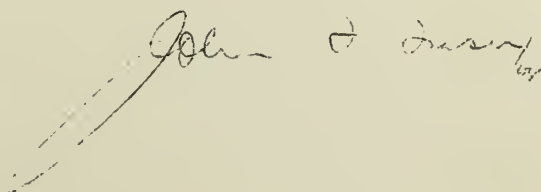
I have the honour to present for your information and consideration a Report on the Health and Health Services of Featherstone during the year 1956.

The Annual Report of the Public Health Inspector dealing with the Sanitary Circumstances of the Urban District, Housing and the Inspection and Supervision of Food Supplies, is complementary to this Report.

For your information certain details of the personal health services administered by the County Council are included.

I am,

Your Obedient Servant,

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "John A. Goss", is written over a faint, diagonal dashed line.

Medical Officer of Health.



FEATHERSTONE URBAN DISTRICT COUNCIL

MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL - 1956.

Chairman: Cr. E. Rowley

Vice Chairman: Cr. H. Woodcock

Cr. H. Darbyshire.

Cr. M.L. Fox.

Cr. J. Fearnley.

Cr. W. Griffiths.

Cr. J. Harper

Cr. B. Major

Cr. T. Morgan

Cr. J. Parker

Cr. A.J. Davis

Cr. A. Booth

Clerk to the Council:

H. Tattersall, A.L.A.A., F.R. Econ. C.

Medical Officer of Health

John F. Fraser, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Senior Public Health Inspector:

John Hilsley, C.R.S.I., M.S.I.A.



P A R T O N E

STATISTICS AND SOCIAL CONDITIONS.

GENERAL STATISTICS.

Area of District: 4,425 acres.

Population, mid-year, Registrar-General's estimate: 14,340.

Number of inhabited houses at end of 1956: 4433.

Rateable Value at end of 1956: - £87,831. 1955 - £60,638.

Product of penny rate; 1956 - £208.17.3d. 1955 - £224. 9. 1d.

VITAL STATISTICS.

The figures in brackets are the corresponding ones for 1955.

<u>Live Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate.	148 (125)	122 (100)	270 (225)
Illegitimate.	3 (4)	6 (6)	9 (10)
Total	151 (129)	128 (106)	279 (235)

Birth rate per 1,000 estimated population: 19.5 (16.6)

<u>Still Births.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	4 (3)	4 (-)	8 (3)
Illegitimate.	- (1)	- (-)	- (1)
Total	4 (4)	4 (-)	8 (4)

Rate per 1,000 live and still births: 27.9 (16.7)

Rate per 1,000 estimated population: . 55 (.28)

<u>Deaths.</u>	<u>Male.</u>	<u>Female.</u>	<u>Total.</u>
All age Groups	81 (81)	53 (66)	134 (147)

<u>Deaths - Infants under one year.</u>	<u>Male</u>	<u>Female</u>	<u>Total.</u>
Legitimate	5 (5)	3 (5)	8 (10)
Illegitimate.	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

Deaths - Infants under four weeks.

Legitimate	4 (3)	2 (3)	6 (6)
Illegitimate.	- (-)	- (-)	- (-)

MATERNAL DEATHS. NIL (NIL)

Death Rates.

General rate per 1,000 population.	9.3 (10.4)
All infants per 1,000 live births	28.7 (42.6)
Legitimate infants per 1,000 legitimate live births	29.62 (44.4)
Illegitimate infants per 1,000 illegitimate	NIL (NIL)
Maternal deaths per 1,000 live and still births	NIL (NIL)

The principal causes of death are set out in the following Table.

T A B L E I .

Cause of Death.	Male.	Female.	Total.
Tuberculosis Respiratory	1	-	1
Syphilitic Disease	1	1	2
Malignant Neoplasm Stomach	3	2	5
Malignant Neoplasm Lung Bronchus	3	1	4
Malignant Neoplasm Breast	-	2	2
Malignant Neoplasm Uterus	-	1	1
Other Malignant and Lymphatic Neoplasms	3	4	7
Leukaemia, Aleukaemia	1	-	1
Diabetes	1	-	1
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	9	8	17
Coronary Disease, Angina	16	3	19
Hypertension with Heart Disease	2	-	2
Other Heart Disease	10	12	22
Other Circulatory Disease	3	2	5
Influenza	1	1	2
Pneumonia	2	2	4
Bronchitis	8	-	8
Other diseases of Respiratory System	2	2	4
Gastritis, Enteritis and Diarrhoea	2	1	3
Nephritis and Nephrosis	-	2	2
Congenital Malformations	1	1	2
Other Defined and ill-defined Diseases	8	6	14
Motor Vehicle Accidents	1	-	1
All other accidents	2	2	4
Suicide	1	-	1
TOTALS	81	53	134

The number of deaths registered during the year was 134, 13 less than last year. This yields a death rate of 9.3 per 1,000 of the estimated population as against a figure of 10.4 for the previous year. The rate for England and Wales is 11.7

The principal causes of death as compared with 1955, 1954, 1953 and 1952 are as follows:-

	<u>1956.</u>	<u>1955.</u>	<u>1954.</u>	<u>1953.</u>	<u>1952.</u>
Heart Disease	65	42	40	33	27
Cancer	20	26	22	16	24
Bronchitis	8	21	14	9	9
Tuberculosis (all forms)	1	1	4	3	5

INFANT MORTALITY

The infant mortality rate for 1956 is 28.7 compared with 23.8 which is the figure for England and Wales.

The following Table gives causes of infant deaths during 1956, classified into age groups and months of incidence.

T A B L E II.

Cause of Death									All ages under 1 yr.		
	Under 1 wk.	1-2 wks	2-3 wks	3-4 wks	1-3 mth	3-6 mth	6-9 mth	9-12 mth	M.	F.	T.
Prematurity	3								2	1	3
Congenital Defect		1								1	1
Acute Bronchitis						1			1		1
Purulent . Meningitis.		1							1		1
Cerebal Haemorrhage	1								1		1
Broncho Pneumonia							1			1	1
	4	2	-	-	-	1	1	-	5	3	8

SUMMARY OF VITAL STATISTICS FOR PREVIOUS
SEVEN YEARS AS COMPARED WITH 1956 .

<u>Year.</u>	<u>Birth Rate</u>	<u>Death Rate</u>	<u>Infant Mortality Rate.</u>
1949	20.5	11.6	36
1950	19.0	9.7	46
1951	19.1	7.1	7
1952	18.4	9.2	19.3
1953	19.8	8.0	32.4
1954	15.6	10.1	36.5
1955	16.6	10.4	42.6
1956	19.5	9.3	28.7

T A B L E III.

COMPARISON OF FEATHERSTONE VITAL STATISTICS WITH OTHER WEST RIDING URBAN DISTRICTS, THE WEST RIDING ADMINISTRATIVE COUNTY AND ENGLAND AND WALES.

	Feather- stone Urban District.	Aggregate West Rid- ing Urban Districts	West Riding Admin. County.	England & Wales (pro visional) figures.
BIRTH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population)	19.5	15.8	16.4	15.7
DEATH RATE (per 1,000 estimated population) ALL CAUSES	9.3	12.6	11.8	11.7
Infective & Para.Dis. excl.Tub. but incl. Syph.. and other V.D.	0.14	0.07	0.07	*
Tuberculosis Respiratory	0.07	0.11	0.11	0.11
Tuberculosis Other	-	0.01	0.02	0.01
Tuberculosis All Forms	0.07	0.12	0.13	0.12
Cancer	1.39	2.05	1.89	2.08
Vascular Lesions of Nervous System	1.49	2.05	1.86	*
Heart and Circulatory	3.35	4.76	4.47	*
Respiratory Diseases	1.26	1.37	1.29	*
Maternal Mortality (per 1,000 live and still births)	Nil	0.69	0.52	0.56
Infant Mortality	28.7	25.9	27.1	23.8
Still Births (per 1,000 live and still births)	27.9	23.5	23.1	23.0

* figures not available.

P A R T T W O

PREVALENCE OF AND CONTROL OVER
INFECTIOUS AND OTHER DISEASES.

The following Table shows the prevalence of infectious diseases throughout the year.

T A B L E I V.

Disease.	Jan/ Mar	Apr/ Jun	Jul/ Sep	Oct/ Dec	Total	Deaths.	No. of cases admitted to hospital.
Scarlet Fever	2			1	3		2
Whooping Cough	4	7	5	7	23		4
Measles	3	1			4		-
Dysentery	4	4	2	1	11		4
Pneumonia	3	2	5	1	11		1
Poliomyelitis Non Paralytic			1		1		1
Total	16	14	13	10	53	-	12

Measles follows a two yearly cycle and this has been a "low measles" year. There were 4 cases against 341 in 1955 and 9 in 1954.

Immunisation

125 children under the age of five years and 171 over the age of five years received a full course of primary immunisation against diphtheria. In addition 839 children received a reinforcing injection

A special immunisation session was held at Albert Street Clinic, Featherstone, on the first Thursday, of each month.

T A B L E V.

TUBERCULOSIS.

The following Table summarises particulars contained in the Register of Tuberculous persons.

No. of Cases in Register.	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total
	M	F	M	F	
At Commencement of 1956	64	36	14	17	131
Notified for the first time during 1956	11	5	-	-	16
Transfers - INWARD	-	3	-	1	4
Removed during 1956	6	1	-	-	7
At the end of 1956.	69	43	14	18	144

The reasons for removal of cases from the Register are given in the following Table.

T A B L E VI.

Entries relating to:	Respiratory		Non-Respiratory		Total.
	M	F	M	F	
Persons who have died	2	-	-	-	2
Who have recovered	-	-	-	-	-
Persons who have ceased to reside in the district.	4	1	-	-	5
	6	1	-	-	7

In the following Table new cases and mortality are classified.

T A B L E VII.

Age Groups	NEW CASES				DEATHS			
	Resp.		Non-Resp.		Resp.		Non-Resp.	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
Under 5 years	-	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
and under 15	1	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
15 and under 25	2	2	-	-	-	-	-	-
25 and under 35	-	1	-	-	-	-	-	-
35 and under 45	5	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
45 and under 55	2	-	-	-	-	-	-	-
55 and under 65	1	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
65 and over.	-	1	-	-	1	-	-	-
	11	5	-	-	2	-	-	-

National Assistance Act.
Section 47.

It was found necessary to remove one person, a man, to Hospital compulsorily under the provision of the above mentioned Act.

Part III.

C O U N T Y C O U N C I L
O F T H E
W E S T R I D I N G O F Y O R K S H I R E

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D I V I S I O N 1 2

=====

Pontefract Municipal Borough
Featherstone Urban District
Knottingley Urban District
Osgoldcross Rural District

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A N N U A L R E P O R T
O F T H E
D I V I S I O N A L M E D I C A L O F F I C E R
1956

BY
J.F. FRASER,
M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst., R.C.O.G.

Divisional Staff at 31.12.56.

Divisional Medical Officer

J.F. FRASER, M.B., B.S., D.P.H., D.Obst. R.C.O.G.

Senior Assistant County Medical Officer
and School Medical Officer.

G.M. Mayhall, M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P.

Assistant County Medical Officer and
School Medical Officer

J.C. White, M.B., B.S., M.R.C.S., L.R.C.P., D.C.H.

Health Visitors and School Nurses

Miss E.M. Atkinson,	Miss M.H. Osborne.
Mrs. P.M. Brice.	Miss B.K. Porter.
Mrs. M. Faulkner.	Miss H. Theobald.
Miss B.N. Kennington.	Mrs. M.K. Walsh.

Assistant Health Visitors

Miss L.O.I. Day	Mrs. J.K. Smith (Clinic Nurse)
Miss M.W. Thornley.	

Tuberculosis Health Visitor

Mrs. E.W. Petch.

Midwives.

Miss K. Ault.	Mrs. A.M. Randall.
Mrs. A. Attack.	Miss C.A. Roberts.
Mrs. I. Bushell.	Mrs. W. Tame.
Mrs. E. Glover (relief)	Mrs. J.R. Wilford.
Mrs. B. Lister.	Miss M. Wright.
Miss C. Norton.	

Home Nurses

Mrs. R.L. Copestake.	Miss E. Lumley.
Miss A. Elsley.	Mrs. A. Moiser.
Mrs. F. Green	Miss M. Reading.
Miss E. Leach (relief)	

Home Nurse-Midwives.

Miss B.M. Butterworth.	Miss J. Redfearn.
------------------------	-------------------

Mental Health Social Worker

Mrs. M. Myers

Mental Health Home Teacher

Mrs. G.J. Argile.

Speech Therapist

Miss K. Wade.

Duly Authorised Officer

Mr. R.F.H. Battye

Senior Clerk

Mr. W. Carver.

INTRODUCTION

In this section is given a brief account of the services provided by the West Riding County Council as a whole, under Part III of the National Health Services Act.

VITAL STATISTICS

Births

The number of live births registered in the Divisional area during 1956 was 1073 (533 males and 540 females), an increase of 58 compared with the previous year.

The CRUDE BIRTH RATE, 18.7 per thousand of the estimated population compared with 17.8 for the previous year was well above the West Riding Administrative County rate of 16.4 and the England and Wales birth rate of 15.7.

Deaths

The deaths assigned to the Divisional area after correction for transfers were 539 (301 males and 238 females), an increase of 10 compared with 1955.

The CRUDE DEATH RATE from all causes was 9.4 per 1,000 of the estimated population as compared with 9.3 for the previous year. Here again the death rate compares favourably with that for the West Riding Administrative Area which is 11.8 and for England and Wales 11.7.

Infant Mortality

In 1956 the deaths of infants under one year of age numbered 24, a decrease of six compared with the previous year. The infant mortality rate was 22.4 as against 22.8 in the previous year.

Maternal Mortality

There was one maternal death in the Divisional area during the year.

MIDWIFERY AND MATERNITY SERVICES

Domiciliary Midwifery

Of the 1083 notified live births, 541 were delivered by domiciliary midwives, the private doctors being present in 57 of these cases.

Notifications

The following notifications were received from midwives practicing in the division:

Death of Child	4
Still Births	8
Artificial Feeding	88
Liability to be a	1
Source of Infection	

Medical Assistance

Medical aid notices sent in by midwives during 1956 numbered 111, all of these being domiciliary.

Gas and Air Analgesia

All the domiciliary midwives held the certificate in gas and air analgesia administration and were equipped with the necessary apparatus.

Gas and air analgesia only was given in 57 cases. Pethidine only was given in 106 cases, and gas and air and pethidine was given in 278 cases.

Ante-Natal Clinics

There are four Ante-Natal Clinics in the division which are held at Pontefract, Featherstone, Knottingley and Ferrybridge, and during the year 523 patients attended, of which 455 were new patients. The total number of attendances was 2990.

At all of these clinics post-natal examinations are carried out and 173 patients were examined post-natally during the year.

Relaxation Classes.

Relaxation classes for expectant mothers are held at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics.

These have continued to be well attended and the number of attendances at these clinics during the year was 603.

Institutional Midwifery

Patients from this division are admitted either to the Castleford Maternity Home or to the Southmoor Maternity Unit, Hemsworth.

No difficulty has been experienced regarding maternity accommodation, although it has not always been possible to secure admission to the hospital of the patient's choice. Due to travelling difficulties there is a preference for the Castleford Maternity Home, although our allocation of beds is much smaller than at Southmoor.

CHILD WELFARE

In this division, Infant Welfare sessions are held at seven fixed premises. The Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics are County owned premises, whilst the ones at Carleton, Ferrybridge, Streethouse and Beal are held in hired premises.

In August of this year the County Council brought into operation a mobile clinic which visits four parishes hitherto without Child Welfare services in the Osgoldcross Rural District. These have proved very popular.

The following proprietary preparations were available at cost price to all women attending the clinics:

Ostermilk	Virol
Trufood	Maltoline
Cow & Gate	Farex
Ovaltine	Scotts Twin Pack
Glucose 'D'	Robinson's Groats
Horlicks	Robinson's Patent Barley
Minadex	Colact
Lactagol	Robrex
Bemax	Robsoup
Cerex	Bovril Weaning Food
Trufood Cereal	Roboleine

The following were distributed free of charge:-

I.C.D. Tablets	Ferrous Sulphate Tablets
Viteolin Tablets	A & D Liquid.
Vitamin 'C'	Lactation Tablets.

I wish to express my thanks to the ladies of the Voluntary Committees at the clinics for all the work they have done during the year.

Premature Babies

During the year 81 babies weighing $5\frac{1}{2}$ lbs. or less were born in hospitals or nursing homes to mothers normally resident in the division and 21 were born at home.

SCHOOL HEALTH SERVICE

Medical Inspections.

The periodic medical examination of the four age groups, i.e. entrants (5 years +) second age group (7 years +) intermediates (10 years +) and leavers (14 years +) continued throughout the year at the 54 schools in the division.

Re-examinations of children who at previous periodic or special examinations had been found to have defects, were made at each school medical inspection. During the year 3,414 periodic inspections were carried out. In addition 1,731 special inspections and re-examinations were made. When it is considered that the school population is 10,000 it will be realised over half of all children at school were examined at one time or another during the year.

General Condition of Children

All pupils at routine medical inspections are classified as to their general condition at the time of examination and 89.95% were classified as satisfactory and only 10.05% as unsatisfactory.

Uncleanliness

During the year Health Visitors and School Nurses made 21,126 examinations of children in schools. Of these 591 individual children were found to be infested.

SPECIAL CLINICS

Ophthalmic Clinics.

Mr. S.K. Sledge holds one session per week at the Pontefract Clinic at which children from all areas of the division attend. Due to the large numbers of children awaiting examination it has been necessary on occasions to hold additional sessions which have been held by Dr. J.V. Kirkwood, and during the year 1,136 children were examined. Of these, 430 were prescribed glasses.

Ear, Nose and Throat Clinics

Mr. K.M. Mayall holds fortnightly sessions at the Headlands Road Clinic for children from this division. During the year Mr. Mayall held 21 sessions and saw 129 children. In all, the children made 239 attendances.

Orthopaedic Clinics

Mr. R.W.L. Calderwood, Consultant Orthopaedic Surgeon, holds a monthly clinic at the Headlands Road Clinic, and during the year 10 sessions were held. 139 children were seen at these clinics and the total number of attendances made was 185.

Child Guidance Treatment.

Dr. S.M. Leese, Consultant Psychiatrist, holds Child Guidance Clinics at the County Health Department, Wakefield, and during the year 19 children from this area attended there.

Ultra Violet Ray Treatment.

During the winter months, Ultra Violet Ray treatment sessions are held twice weekly at the Headlands Road Clinic, Pontefract. During the year, 47 children made 816 attendances for this treatment.

Speech Therapy

Miss K.M. Wade, Speech Therapist in this division, held 108 sessions at the Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics during the year. 46 children were treated.

Handicapped Pupils

The regular medical examination of handicapped children continued during the year and where necessary, recommendations were made for placement in Special Schools.

Medical Examination of Teachers and Entrants to Training College

It is the duty of the School Medical Officer to examine candidates applying for entry to training colleges for the purpose of satisfying the college authorities of their fitness to follow a course of teacher training. During the year 43 candidates were examined and where necessary x-ray examination arranged.

In the case of entrants to the teaching profession, 17 examinations were made.

B.C.G. Vaccination Against Tuberculosis

Vaccination against Tuberculosis was offered to all children in the year of their 13th birthday. With the consent of the parents a test is performed to see if the child has already encountered the germ of Tuberculosis. If it has done so, no further action is taken, as it is assumed that the child is acquiring a natural immunity. If, however, the test indicates that the child has not encountered tubercle bacillus, then vaccination is carried out.

The age of 13 years has been chosen because at this age the natural resistance to the disease tends to drop and it is hoped to confer protection during the years of increased risk.

During 1956 the following work was undertaken in the division:-

<u>No. of Consents issued.</u>	<u>No. of Consents Received.</u>	<u>Mantoux Test.</u>	<u>Mantoux Negative</u>	<u>Mantoux Positive</u>
1,545	836	805	571	224

B.C.G. Vaccination

571.

Vaccination against Poliomyelitis

At the beginning of the year the Government announced the introduction of a vaccine which was expected to confer a degree of immunity to Poliomyelitis. As the supply of vaccine was limited, Local Health Authorities were asked to make vaccination available in the first place only to children born in the years 1947 to 1954 inclusive. In this division 8,000 forms were issued to parents either through the schools or direct to homes. Of these, 2,250 were returned and registered. Although supplies of vaccine were limited, vaccinations commenced in April and were continued until May. They were resumed in November.

During the year 220 children in the division had a complete course of protection, i.e. two injections.

HEALTH VISITING

During the year the following number of visits were made by Health Visitors in the division:

<u>No. of Children under 5 years of age visited during the year</u>	5613
Total visits made to expectant mothers	55
Total visits made to children under 1 year of age	6622
Total visits to children aged 1 and under 2 years	4653
Total visits to children aged 2 but under 5 years	5905
Total visits to tuberculous households	2036
Total families or households visited	5040
Other cases visited	6703

HOME NURSING

During the year 27,939 visits were paid by Home Nurses compared with 27,731 in the previous year.

The number of cases attended and visits made are shown below:-

Classification	No. of cases attended by Home Nurses during the year.	No. of visits paid by Home Nurses during the year.
(1) Medical	706	21369
(2) Surgical	227	5169
(3) Infectious Diseases	3	86
(4) Tuberculosis	33	1307
(5) Maternal complications	1	8
TOTALS	970	27939
Patients included in above who were aged 65 or over at the time of the first visit during the year	500	18535
Children included in above who were under 5 years of age at the time of the first visit during the year.	70	665
Patients included in above who have had more than 24 visits during the year	189	10402

HOME HELP SERVICE

The home help service is provided under the National Health Act, 1946. Section 29 of the act stipulates the class of case for which provision of a Home Help can be made. These are as follows:

- | | |
|--------------|---------------------------------------------|
| (a) Ill | (d) Expectant Mother |
| (b) Lying-in | (e) Mental Defective. |
| (c) Aged | (f) A child not over compulsory school age. |

Before a Home Help can be provided, a form of application must be signed by the head of the household on which he undertakes either to pay the whole cost of the service, or to give a statement of his income and agree to pay the assessed charge according to the County Council Scheme.

Under no circumstances can a Home Help be used as a sitter-in and the amount of assistance which a patient is granted is related strictly to the amount of domestic work which is required to be done.

The authorised establishment of Home Helps in this division was increased from 23 to 27 on the 1st October, 1956 and during the year the following assistance was given:-

Authorised Divisional Establishment

(i) Basic	22/27
(ii) From Reserve Pool	-
(iii) TOTAL	22/27

No. of Domestic Helps employed at 31st December.

(i) Whole-time	Nil
(ii) Part-time	39
(iii) TOTAL	39

Cases provided with Domestic Help during the year ended 31st December

	<u>No. of Cases.</u>	<u>Hours Employed</u>
(i) Maternity (including expectant mothers)	58	3871
(ii) Tuberculosis	9	1747
(iii) Chronic sick - (a) Aged 65 +	209	40140
(b) Under 65	58	5057
(iv) Others	-	-
TOTALS	<u>334</u>	<u>50815</u>

Number of Home Helps that could have been employed full-time. 22.2

MENTAL HEALTH

The mental health work in the division consists mainly of the supervision of defectives under Voluntary and Statutory Supervision, and in the provision of reports on home conditions to Hospital Management Committees. The nearest Occupation Centre to this area is at Castleford and at the end of the year 15 children from this area were attending there. For the children who are considered unsuitable for the Occupation Centre, group training classes are held twice weekly at the Pontefract, Featherstone and Knottingley Clinics, where the Home Teacher, Mrs. Argile provides training in handicrafts of various sorts.

MEDICAL EXAMINATION FOR SUPERANNUATION PURPOSES

New entrants to the County Council Service are required to undergo a medical examination to see if they are suitable for admission to the Superannuation Scheme, and during the year I examined 70 candidates. In addition 1 member of the County Staff resident in the Divisional area who had been off duty through sickness for a considerable period was examined to ascertain whether or not he was incapable of continuing employment by reason of permanent ill-health.

URBAN SANITARY DISTRICT OF

FEATHERSTONE

ANNUAL REPORT

of the

PUBLIC HEALTH INSPECTOR

for the

YEAR ENDED 31st DECEMBER, 1956.

To the Chairman and Members of the Council:

LADIES AND GENTLEMEN,

I beg to present to you my Annual Report for the year 1956, the Thirtieth I have had the honour of placing before you.

SANITARY CIRCUMSTANCES

WATER SUPPLY: The water supply, which is purchased in bulk from Wakefield Corporation Waterworks was satisfactory in quality throughout the year. The provision by you of a booster pump and the provision of a new trunk main by Wakefield Corporation has resulted in improved pressures and the elimination of complaints of low pressure from the higher parts of the district.

All the houses in the district are connected to the public mains.

SANITARY ACCOMMODATION AND DRAINAGE

During the year 12 privy closets were converted to water closets; 4 additional water closets were provided for old property and 115 water closets were provided for new property, while 3 water closets were demolished.

At the end of the year there were:-

4693	Pedestal Water Closets
37	Trough Closets
20	Waste Water Closets
17	Pail Closets
35	Privy Closets

There are 92 houses in the district not connected to the public sewer and which are drained to cesspools. The cesspools are regularly emptied by means of a mechanical cesspool emptier.

There are two Sewage Works, one at South Featherstone and one at Old Snydale.

64% of the houses on the sewer drain to the South Featherstone works, and 36% to Old Snydale.

The South Featherstone works are in course of reconstruction and enlargement and during the year new electric pumps, float controlled, have been installed.

SCAVENGING: Scavenging is done by direct labour and has been satisfactorily carried out during the year.

The estimated weight of refuse collected was 10,729 tons. Of this quantity, 10,708 tons were disposed of by tipping and 21 tons were recovered as salvage.

The following materials were salvaged and sold:-

Tons.	Cwts.	Qrs.	lbs.		£.	s.	d.
21.	6.	1.	20.	Mixed Waste Paper.	163.	19.	9.
<hr/>					<hr/>		
21.	6.	1.	20.		£ 163.	19.	9.
<hr/>					<hr/>		

NUISANCES: 160 nuisances were discovered, the majority of which were remedied as a result of informal action.

It was necessary to serve 14 Statutory Notices.

FACTORIES: The term Factory includes premises large and small where articles are made, altered or repaired for purpose of gain. There are 38 such premises on the register, and 97 inspections were made. It was not found necessary to take any legal action.

RODENT CONTROL: During the year, 2,038 inspections were made and 191 premises were baited (pre-bait and poison) against rats and mice. These were mostly small infestations but included several allotments. 277 dead rats and 87 dead mice were picked up, which indicates that a large number of rats and mice were killed.

The Council's own premises, sewage works and refuse tip were treated at three monthly intervals. Sewer treatments were carried out in March and October.

HOUSING: During the year 32 houses, 24 bungalows and 48 flats were built by the local authority, and 7 houses and 4 bungalows by private enterprise, a total of 115 new houses.

The number of post war houses built is as follows:-

Number of houses erected

<u>Year</u>	<u>By Local Authority</u>	<u>By Private Enterprise</u>	<u>Total</u>
1946	42	-	42
1947	84	4	88
1948	114	-	114
1949	154	-	154
1950	12	2	14
1951	66	6	72
1952	75	2	77
1953	44	3	47
1954	105	183	288
1955	26	30	56
1956	<u>104</u>	<u>11</u>	<u>115</u>
	826	241	1067

3 houses were demolished during the year in persuance of demolition orders.

53 houses were found to require Statutory action to secure repairs and 47 demolition orders and 2 closing orders were issued.

1 Clearance Order involving 70 houses was made during the year.

At the end of the year the Housing Application List was revised and excluding tenants of condemned houses there were 282 applications for houses, 224 from tenants and 58 from lodgers, plus 114 applications for Old Aged Persons Dwellings.

INSPECTION AND SUPERVISION OF FOOD: There are 6 slaughter houses in your area, but during the year only 2 were in regular use. During the year the following carcasses were inspected:-

123	Bullocks
23	Heifers
15	Cows
23	Calves
169	Lambs
328	Sheep
157	Swine

During the year the following articles of food were condemned as unfit for human consumption:-

Fresh Meat and Offal	813 lbs
Tinned Meat	43 lbs
Peaches	4 tins
Pears	17 tins
Pineapple	16 tins
Oranges	4 tins
Cherries	13 tins
Apricots	4 tins
Baked Beans	7 tins
Broad Beans	1 tin
Soup	3 tins
Mixed Vegetables	2 tins
Carrots	1 tin
Tomatoes	182 tins
Salmon	1 tin
Sardines	2 tins
Craw Fish	1 tin
Crab	10 tins
Pilchards	11 tins
Herrings	1 tin
Tuna Fish	1 tin
Peas	12 tins
Milk	25 tins

MILK AND DAIRIES REGULATIONS 1949: The following licences have been issued during the year:-

Dealers	Tuberculin Tested	19
Supplementary	Tuberculin Tested	4
Dealers	Pasteurised	19
Supplementary	Pasteurised	5
Dealers	Sterilised	41
Supplementary	Sterilised	1

THE FOOD HYGIENE REGULATIONS, 1955: In the district there are 120 shops which come within the term food premises, together with 17 Public Houses and Clubs, 10 Works Canteens, 9 School Canteens and 1 Hospital. All these premises were visited and considerable progress made in implementing the Regulations.

I am, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient servant,

J. Hilsley.

Chief Public Health Inspector.

